

CAPSULE
WILLIAM S. KEECH HOUSE

The William S. Keech House is a relatively large brick house that has several features of the Gothic revival. The Gothic's love of natural light and emphasis on vertical lines is evidenced in the bay windows and the steep cross gable. The dormers are also steep gables that jut into the sky. Ornamentation also being characteristic of this style, is shown in the large decorative brackets under the eaves of the roof and in the decoration around the front door (south facade). This house is unusual in that it is brick and has a cross gable. Presently it is one of two brick cross gables recorded in the Towson area in the last year and a half.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

WILLIAM S. KEECH HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

404 Joppa Road

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Ninth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Frank C McCrystle

Telephone #: 823-3164

STREET & NUMBER

1531 W. Joppa Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21204**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber # 1443
Folio # 120

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Towson

Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-1752

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE Jan., 1979

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

404 Joppa Road is a 2½ storey brick deep eaved gable roof house that has several Victorian features.

The cross gabled south facade, whose fenestration is symmetrical is 3 bays wide with a flat roof porch supported by wood columns and brick piers. There is lattice work adjacent to these piers. The large half wood half glass door in the central bay has 2 arched sidelights and a 2 light arched transom. On each side there is a tall 6 light window. The east and west bays of the second storey have 2/2 light sash windows. There is a 1½ storey wood swell-front containing 3 windows in the middle bay. Both levels have a 1/1 light arched window in the east and west bays that surround the 2/2 light arched window in the central bay. The uppermost storey has wood gabled dormers that sit in the east and west bays which have deep eaves that give a suggestion of a pediment. Two brick chimnies exit the roof behind these dormers.

The west facade of the main block has a 2/2 light sash window in the south bay and a bay window with identicle fenestration as the swell-front of the south facade sits in the north bay of the first storey. There are two 2/2 light sash windows grouped in the south bay of the second storey and a single 2/2 light sash window in the north bay. The north and south bays of the uppermost level have 4/4 light sash windows and the gable houses an oculus vent. One arched basement window is visible in the south bay.

The tow bay wide east facade has 2 basement windows and 2/2 light sash windows in each storey that become progressively smaller from ground up. This gable also houses an oculus vent.

The north facade's fenestration is irregular as it is disrupted by the projection of a 2 storey wing. In the first storey there is a 6 light window occupying the east bay, a wood door to its west and a 2/2 light sash window in the west bay which has a bulkhead under it. The east bay of the second storey has a wood door which is followed by tow 2/2 light sash windows. The back of the dormers are visible from this facade.

The brick gable roof wing is 2 sided and projects from the north end of the house. There is one 6/6 light sash window in the first storey of the north facade. The 3 bay wide west facade has symmetrical fenestration with its sash windows having 6/6 lights. There is a porch that begins at the east facade of the wing and ends at the northwest corner of the house. There are two boarded up doors in the north and south bays of the first storey with a 6/6 sash light window in the central bay. This facade shows an irregular wall seam that is in the middle of the wing's wall. Above this seam is a chimney.

All of the windows and doors with the exception of the front door (south facade) have brick sills, and arched stretcher lintels. Many of the windows have louvered wood shutters.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

BA-1752

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1868 - 1876

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

404 Joppa Road is a relatively large brick house that has several features of the Gothic revival. The Gothic's love of natural light and emphasis on vertical lines is evidenced in the bay windows and the steep cross gable. The dormers are also steep gables that jut into the sky. Ornamentation also being characteristic of this style, is shown in the large decorative brackets under the eaves of the roof and in the decoration around the front door.(south facade.) This house is unusual in that it is brick and has a cross gable. Presently it is one of two brick cross gables recorded in the Towson area in the last year and a half.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County Land Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Attachment

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE

Mary Sue Greisman

WAYNE L. NIELD, II
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

Student Surveyor

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

404 Joppa Road.

BA-1752

<u>Liber/Folio</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>
1443/120	March 14, 1946	Ray H Curry and wife	Frank C McCrystle and wife

1st-from a stone labeled BK north $53\frac{1}{2}$ degrees west 250 feet...parallel with the second line of lot mentioned in Liber/Folio 14/212...250 feet south $29\frac{1}{2}$ degrees west 196 $\frac{3}{4}$ feet to center of Joppa or Old Court Road...250 feet along center of said road from the intersection of road with second line of 14/212 then reversing to the second line...bounding north $29\frac{1}{2}$ degrees east 192 feet to place of beginning. Containing 1 acre and 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ square perches.

2cd-from a stone labeled BK which begins at the end of the first line of 14/212 binding on lot granted by Nathan Ware to Eleanor L Pinkerton binding on this north 33 degrees east 233 feet to the centre of a 40 foot ave. as located on plat intended to be recorded with the Baltimore County...north 55 degrees 30 minutes west 250 feet south 30 degrees 30 minutes west 226 feet north $53\frac{1}{2}$ degrees west 250 feet...binding reversely south 53 degrees east 250 feet to beginning. Containing 1 acre 1 rod and 30 square perches.

1410/355 Oct.16,1945 Claude A Hanley Ray H Curry

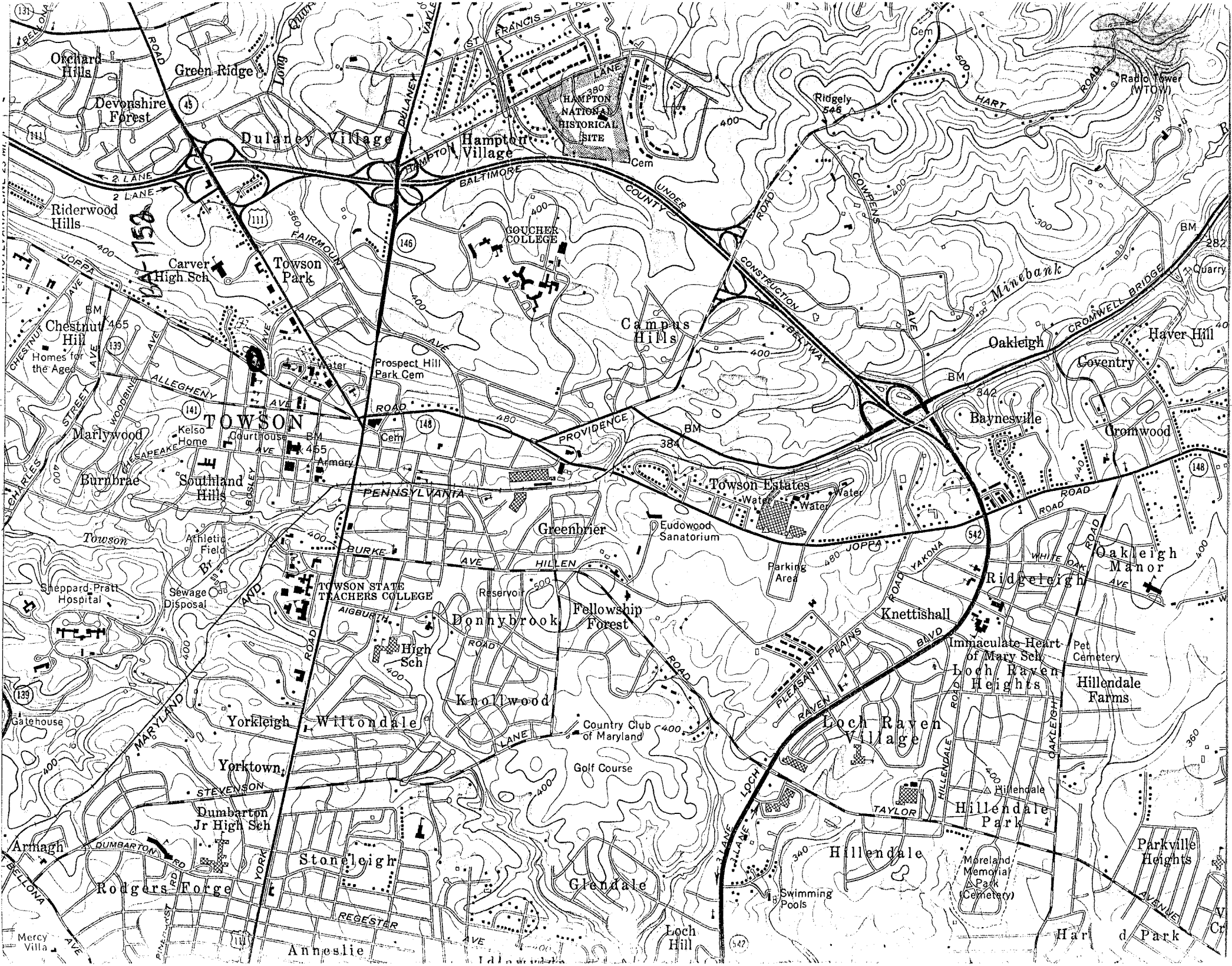
1410/353 Oct.16,1945 Ray H Curry Claude A Hanley

511/183 June 20,1919 Rose Keech Selden Martha Hester

referring to 2 contiguous lots of ground on the north side of Joppa
ing part of a tract called Gunner's Range...Aggregate properties 2 $\frac{57}{100}$ acre

87/245 July 14,1876 Randolph R Ware William S Keech

584/199 May 18,1868 Grafton M Bosley William S Keech





BA-1752

WILLIAM S. KEECH HSE.

S. FACADE

W. NIELD

7/79



BA-1752

WILLIAM S. KEECH HSE.
S.W. CORNER

W. NIELD
7/79